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The Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D.C. 20505

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Honorable James W. Nance
Deputy Assistant to the President
for National Security Affairs

SUBJECT: Cuban Special Forces Unit in Nicaragua

REFERENCE: Your memorandum dated 23 October 1981

1. Based on a detailed review of relevant [] reporting, 25X1
CIA analysts believe that estimates of the number of Cuban Ministry of
Interior personnel that were sent to Nicaragua between 16 September and 7
October should be revised substantially downward. We believe that:

- Ministry of Interior personnel were placed aboard flights
carrying large contingents of teachers.
- No more than 225 security personnel could have been on these
flights.
- No military "combat units" were sent to Nicaragua. [] 25X1

[] 25X1

3. The Sandinistas have become increasingly concerned that they will
soon face a stepped up paramilitary challenge. The Ministry of Interior
personnel probably were sent to provide advice as well as technical and
administrative support to Nicaraguan counterinsurgency troops and security
forces. Some also may be providing VIP security protection. [] 25X1

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Next 5 Page(s) In Document Denied